

# CLARK COUNTY OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Administration Division

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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#### For Immediate Release

### Multiple Felony Counts of Animal Cruelty Filed Against Two Defendants for Deaths Of 16 Dogs

Earlier today, the Clark County District Attorney's Office filed multiple felony animal cruelty counts against Timothy Miller, 79, and Carolyn Luke, 72, following the discovery of 16 dead dogs - 12 in the defendants' hotel room and 4 in their residence - - on March 29, 2024.

"I directed my prosecutors to file 16 animal cruelty charges, one for each dead dog, against each of these defendants. These helpless dogs lived, and died, in deplorable conditions. They were consistently deprived of their most basic needs - - food, water, and medical attention - - for a prolonged period which led to organ failure," said Clark County District Attorney Steve Wolfson.

"Our pets bring us so much joy," Wolfson continued. "They love us unconditionally. They want nothing in return. But they rely on us, their owners, for virtually all their needs. The death of each one of these animals was entirely avoidable, yet these defendants did nothing to care for these 16 dogs. They were severely unkempt, matted, and emaciated."

Dozens of other animals - - tortoises, guinea pigs, rabbits, hamsters, and parrots - - were discovered in the care of Miller and Luke. "Animal cruelty of any type is unacceptable, but this case is particularly disturbing because of the sheer number of animals involved," Wolfson added.

Each felony count of animal cruelty carries a maximum of four (4) years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

The case originated during a traffic stop in Boulder City on March 29, 2024, when multiple animals were found in the defendants' vehicle. The traffic stop led to the service of search warrants at the defendants' hotel room and residence where the dead dogs were discovered.